

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DAMASC 01180 281609Z

43

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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TAGS: PFOR, SY

SUBJ: FURTHER SYRIAN REACTION TO SUSPENSION OF
SECRETARY'S MISSION

1. MARCH 27 AL-BAATH AND AL-THAWRAH REPORTED SECRETARY'S PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS CONCERNING US REASSESSMENT OF ITS MIDDLE EAST POLICY. THEY NOTED HIS ASSERTION THAT REASSESSMENT NOT DIRECTED AGAINST ISRAEL AND THAT QUESTION OF REDUCING AID TO ISRAEL OUT OF QUESTION.

2. JOURNALIST AMID KHULI IN MARCH 27 AL-BAATH AVERRED ISRAELI MILITARY PREPARATIONS ON SYRIA, JORDANIAN AND LEBANESE FRONTS WERE AIMED AT CONCEALING DIRECTION OF PRINCIPAL ISRAELI MILITARY STRIKE, WHICH KHULI BELIEVES WILL BE DIRECTED AGAINST LEBANON TO OCCUPY SOUTH LEBANON AND EXTERMINATE PALESTINIANS.

3. ARCH 27 AL-THAWRAH REPORTED FIRST SYRIAN MINISTERIAL
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PAGE 02 DAMASC 01180 281609Z

REACTIN TO SUSPENSION OF MISSION. FAWZI AL-KAYYALI, MIN-

ISTER OF CULTURE AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE AND SECRETARY
GENERAL OF ARAB SOCIALIST UNION PARTY (NASSERIST),
CLAIMED FOLLOWING POINTS (REPOTED IN DETAIL SEPTTEL) WERE
"REAL GOALS" OF KISSINGER MISSION: A) ISOLATING
EGYPT, B) ISOLATING ARABS INTERNATIONALLY C) PROVIDING
TIME FOR ISRAEL REBUILD FORCES D) RUSHING ARAB
SOLIDARITY, E) SEPARATING SYRIA FROM EGYPT, F) SOWING
DISCORD BETWEEN ARAB MASSES AND THEIR LEADERS, G) SEPARAT-
ING ISSUE TERRITORIES OCCUPIED IN 1967 FROM ISSUE PALESTINIAN
RIGHTS. KISSINGER FAILED ACHIEVE ANY ABOVE GOALS,
INSTEAD ARABS PROVED TO AMERICAN PEOPLE DURING SECRETARY'S
MISSION THAT THEY MADE EVERY SERIOUS EFFORT ACHIEVE
PEACE, AND THAT STRUGGLE IN MIDDLE EAST NOT BETWEEN
COMMUNISTS AND CAPITALISTS BUT BETWEEN ARABS AND OUTSIDERS
WHO VIOLATE ARAB RIGHTS.

4. IN MARCH 28 AL-BAATH COLUMNIST MUHAMMAD MANSUR MADE
STRIDENT ATTACK ON US FOR FAILING EXERCISE ENOUGH PRESSURE
TO FORCE ISRAEL AGREE TO SETTLEMENT WITH ARABS. "A
SIMPLE TELEPHONE CALL BY FORD OR EVEN KISSINGER ORDERING
THEIR SUBORDINATES IN TEL AVIV TO WITHDRAW IMMEDIATELY
FROM THE OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS AND TO RECOGNIZE PALESTINIAN
RIGHTS WOULD HAVE BEEN SUFFICIENT." MANSUR CONCLUDED THAT
"REALITY OF AFFAIR IS THAT AMERICA IS ONE WHICH OCCUPIES
OUR LAND THROUGH ZIONIST MILITARY INSTITUTION WHICH IT
CREATED IN PALESTINE, AND INSISTS ON CONTINUATION OF
OCCUPATION AND EVEN WORKS FOR ADDITIONAL AGGRESSION AND
OCCUPATION. COULD ANY ARAB CITIZEN DOUBT THAT AMERICA IS
THE REAL ENEMY OF OUR ARAB PEOPLE AND THEIR ASPIRATIONS?"

5. AL-BAATH COLUMNIST SAMIR ARABASH IN SAME ISSUE ASSESSES
IMPLICATIONS OF AMERICAN POLICY IN CONTEXT GENEVA CONFER-
ENCE AND CONCLUDES THAT "QUESTION FACES DECISIVE STAGE
CLOSER WE APPROACH END OF APRIL."

6. COMMENT: IT HAS BEEN SOME TIME SINCE WE WITNESSED DIRECT
FRONTAL ASSAULT OF SUCH STRIDENCY AS MUHAMMAD MANSUR DIRECTED
AGAINST US POLICY. LEVEL OF SOPHISTICATION DISMAL EVEN
FOR MODEST STANDARDS NORMALLY TRUE OF DAMASCUS PRESS.
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PAGE 03 DAMASC 01180 281609Z

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